

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A text messaging system for the encryption of ~~at least one~~ a text message sent to a wireless terminal equipment, the text message comprising a Short Message Service (SMS) message having an information data field a User Data Header (UDH) and a text data field, the text messaging system comprising:

means for storing an equipment identification number uniquely assigned to the wireless terminal equipment, wherein the assigned equipment identification number is an International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) number of the wireless terminal equipment;

means coupled to the equipment identification number storing means for encrypting the text data field content of the SMS message using only the ~~equipment identification~~ IMEI number assigned to the wireless terminal equipment as the shared key; and

means for setting an encryption identifier in ~~the information data field of the at least one text message~~ an Information Element (IE) group of the UDH of the SMS message, the encryption identifier comprising a marker in an IE data field, the IE group further comprising an Information Element Identifier (IEI) field set to indicate a presence of the marker, and an Information Element Data Length (IEDL) field set to indicate a length of the marker.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the text data field of the ~~text~~ SMS message comprises configuration commands to remotely manage the wireless terminal equipment.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said wireless terminal equipment is ~~an~~ a Short Message Service (SMS) receiving mobile device and said ~~at least one text~~ SMS message is carried over a wireless network.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said wireless terminal equipment comprises means for storing ~~a personal equipment identification~~ an IMEI number, and further comprising:

means for receiving the encrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message;

means for determining if the received encrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message contains an ~~equipment identification~~ IMEI number as a shared key encryption; and

means for decrypting the received encrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message using the ~~personal equipment identification~~ stored IMEI number of said wireless terminal equipment.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7 further comprising means coupled to the decrypting means for processing or rejecting the decrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the means for generating an encrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message further comprising means for processing an encryption algorithm to compute a bit string using said assigned ~~equipment identification~~ IMEI number as the shared key and the text data field content.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7 wherein the means for decrypting the received encrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message further comprising means for processing a decryption algorithm using said ~~personal equipment identification~~ IMEI number as the shared key and the received encrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message content.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for authenticating a text message sent by a text messaging system to a wireless terminal equipment having means for storing a ~~personal equipment identification~~ International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) number, the text messaging system comprising means for storing an ~~equipment identification~~ IMEI number uniquely assigned to the wireless terminal equipment, and wherein the text message comprises a Short Message Service (SMS) message having ~~an information data field~~ a User Data Header (UDH) and a text data field, the method comprising the steps of:

at the text messaging system:

encrypting the text data field content of the SMS message by using only the ~~equipment identification~~ IMEI number assigned to the wireless terminal equipment as the shared key;

setting an encryption identifier in ~~the information data field of the at least one text message~~ an Information Element (IE) group of the UDH of the SMS message, the encryption identifier comprising a marker in an IE data field, the IE group further comprising an Information Element Identifier (IEI) field set to indicate a presence of the marker, and an Information Element Data Length (IEDL) field set to indicate a length of the marker; and

sending the encrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message to the wireless terminal equipment;

at the wireless terminal equipment:

receiving the encrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message;

determining if the received encrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message contains an ~~equipment identification~~ IMEI number as a shared key encryption; and

decrypting the received encrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message using the ~~personal equipment identification~~ IMEI number of said wireless terminal equipment as a shared key.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising after the receiving step, the step of determining if the encrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message contains configuration commands to remotely activate the wireless terminal equipment.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising after the decrypting step, the step of processing or rejecting the decrypted ~~at least one text~~ SMS message upon the decryption result.

14. (Cancelled).